Suspensions of Sitarampur Railway siding (Eastern Railway)

2180. SHRI SUNIL BASU RAY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Eastern Railway have suspended the Sitarampur Railway siding (Eastern Railway, Asansol Division);

(b) if so, since when and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether this suspension is still continuing;

(d) whether it has adversely affected and is affecting the industries which were served by it;

(e) whether M/s. National Refractories is one such adversely affected industry;

(f) whether the authorities propose to review the suspension and remove it; and

(g) if so, by when it is likely to be effected?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (e) Sitarampur station, along with Salanpur Siding, has been closed for goods booking since 6th March, 1987, on the basis of a work study report. The closure has affected M/s. National Refractories. The traffic of this firm, which is quite meagre, can be dealt with at a nearby railway station, Roopnarayanpur.

(f) There is no proposal to reopen this siding for goods booking.

(g) Does not arise.

Construction of buildings in J.N.U.

2181. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's atention has been drawn to a write up in the Evening News of 13th February, 1988 wherein it is alleged that the administration of Jawaharlal Nerru University is in its hurry to construct buildings destroying precious rocks and sites of archaeological significance; and

(b) if so, what steps Government are taking to preserve the environment as well as sites of historical significance in the precincts of University?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L. P. SHAHI): (a) According to the information furnished by the Jawaharlal Nehru University, there are no precious rocks and sites of archaeological significance on the campus.

(b) Does not arise.

Hatia-Kharagpur Fast Passenger Train

2182. SHRI SUNIL BASU RAY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposed to extend the Hatia-Kharagpur fast passenger train upto Howrah in view of the increasing number of passengers; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Adequate connecting trains including EMU services are available between Kharagpur and Howrah.

Stoppage of Neelachal Express at Garbeta

2183. SHRI SUNIL BASU RAY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration for providing stoppage of Neelachal Express at Garbeta in view of the pressing public demand; and

(b) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The proposal has not been found justifiable.

target of procuring sleepers

2184. SHRI RAMNARAYAN GOSWAMI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the target of procuring sleepers from different State Forest Departments or Corporations during the last three years; year-wise and the amount spent by Government in procuring these wooden sleepers: and

(b) what is the target for 1987-88 and the amount to be spent thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) (a) The target procurement and cost of wooden track sleepers procured during the last three Sleeper Years (Sleeper Year being from 1st November to 31st October of next year) are approximately as under:—

Year	Quantity (In Nos.)	Approximate cost (Rs. in crores)
1984-85 . . .	33.02.000	69.40
1985-86 . . .	27,67,000	73.80
1986-87 . . .	21.66.000	59.48
TOTAL		202.68

(b) The target procurement of wooden track sleepers for 1987-88 Sleeper Year is 12 lakh numbers. The cost of these track sleepers is around Rs. 33.90 crores at the rates prevailing in 1986-87 Sleeper Year. This cost will go up depending upon the increase in prices of sleepers for the Sleeper Year 1987-88 which is awaited from the Ministry of Environment and Forests.

Introduction of E.M.U. local in Howrah Bardhaman

2185. SHRI RAMNARAYAN GOSWAMI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to introduce another E.M.U. local in between 7.48 p.m. and 9.25 p.m. and between 9 25 p.m. and last train 11.03 p.m. in view of the plight of the passengers of the Howrah Bardhaman Chord line;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) what are the reasons for the discrimination towards this section which was neglected by the Railways since long?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) After discussions with the local passenger associations, one additional pair of EMU trains has been introduced between Howrah-Baruipara and three pairs between Howrah-Baruipara have been extended upto Chandanpur from 26th January, 1988. One of the extended locals leaves Howrah at 8.20 p.m.

(c) Both main line and chord line routes between Howrah -Bardhaman have been provided with adequate train services.

Facilities at Kharagpur and Adra

2186. SHRI RAMNARAYAN GOSWAMI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that even the minimum prescribed facilities are not available at the Railway stations between Kharagpur and Adra;

(b) if so, what are details thereof; and

(c) what steps have so far been taken in this regard?